## WORLD FOOD NEWS

Recent studies on the role of women in agriculture all point to the same conclusion—women contribute far more to food and agricultural production than has generally been acknowledged.

In fact, far from limiting themselves to household chores, rural women in developing countries spend most of their working time producing and processing food or earning cash—less than half is spent feeding, clothing and caring for their families.

To focus on the importance of women in agriculture, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) surveyed 82 developing countries outside Latin America. On average, women made up 42 percent of the agricultural labor force. Their share ranged from 46 percent in sub-Saharan Africa and 45 percent in Asia to 40 percent in the Caribbean and 31 percent in North Africa and the Middle East.

Women workers are particularly important during and after the harvest. They clean, thresh and dry grain, dry fish and make cheese and

yogurt.

Women are often very involved in keeping small animals, such as poultry, goats, pigs and rabbits. They do the milking and they process and market milk and other animal products locally.

In many countries women are actually taking on a larger share of the farming workload as the men migrate to cities and towns to find paid work. In addition they often must look after their families on their own. The proportion of households headed by women is increasing: it has reached one in five in sub-Saharan Africa.

Failure to appreciate the contribution of women to agricultural production can be partly explained by the tendency in official statistics to concentrate on wage labor or cashcrop production, traditionally dominated by men. In addition, women are often underrepresented in the policymaking areas of government and in agricultural extension and training services. Less than 10 percent of extension workers are women, according to a recent survey by FAO.

If current trends continue, however, this picture should change in the future. Women, for example, now account for 15 percent of agricultural students in Africa. □

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World Food News is prepared by the North American Liaison Office of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

## Wilhelm Winkler 1884-1984

Austrian demographer and statistician Wilhelm Winkler died recently shortly after celebrating his 100th birthday. Winkler, a former vice president of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, was known for his development of methodology for analyzing population data. An honored professor as well as academic dean during his illustrious career, he continued to have his work published well into his eighties. His son, Othmar Winkler, is on the faculty of Georgetown University. □

## Population Update

Estimated United States Population:

| | |
|---|---|
| As of July 1, 1984 | 236,634,000 |
| As of July 1, 1983 | 234,496,000 |

The above estimates include armed forces overseas and are from U.S. Bureau of Census, *Current Population Reports*, Series P-25.

Estimated World Population:

| | |
|---|---|
| As of November 1984 | 4,790,000,000 |
| Annual Growth | 82,000,000 |

Estimated by extrapolation of the mid-1984 population given on the 1984 World Population Data Sheet.

**Latest Provisional Statistics for the U.S.: June 1984**

| Item | 12 months ending with June | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number | | Rate | | | |
| | 1984 | 1983 | 1984 | 1983 | 1982 | 1981 |
| Live births | 3,632,000 | 3,692,000 | 15.5 | 15.9 | 15.9 | 15.9 |
| Deaths | 2,031,000 | 2,008,000 | 8.6 | 8.6 | 8.5 | 8.8 |
| Natural increase | 1,601,000 | 1,684,000 | 6.9 | 7.3 | 7.4 | 7.1 |
| Marriages | 2,461,000 | 2,477,000 | 10.5 | 10.6 | 10.6 | 10.6 |
| Divorces | 1,161,000 | 1,185,000 | 4.9 | 5.1 | 5.2 | 5.3 |
| Infant deaths | 39,100 | 40,600 | 10.8 | 11.0 | 11.4 | 12.2 |
| Population base (in millions) | ... | ... | 234.9 | 232.7 | 230.5 | 228.3 |

*Note.* Rates are given per 1,000 population, except for infant deaths, which are given per 1,000 live births. Rates are based on revised population estimates from the 1980 Census.

*Source. Monthly Vital Statistics Report* (Vol. 33, No. 6) from the National Center for Health Statistics.

## POSITIONS/ PROFESSIONALS

*Senior Research Associate,* The Urban Institute, to participate in the design and management of ongoing demographic research studies. Experience: family and household demography, immigration to U.S., and/or population and development interactions in less developed countries.

*Research Associate,* The Urban Institute, to participate in design and management of immigration studies. Experience: economic, fiscal, and labor market impacts of immigration, or understanding of demographic, economic, social, and/or political dimensions of immigrant assimilation.

Both positions above require: PhD in economics, sociology, demography, or related field; previous demographic training; experience with large-scale data bases; strong quantitative and writing skills. Contact: Employment Manager, The Urban Institute, 2100 M St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

*Rockefeller Foundation Social Science Fellowship Programs in Population Studies.* Applications will be accepted through Jan. 31, 1985 for two year fellowships to be taken up in mid or late 1985. Highly qualified social science graduates (who have received, or expect to receive, their PhDs after January 1981 to September 1985) will be selected for appointment as scholars at centers in less developed countries. Applicants (U.S. or Canadian citizens or permanent residents) must have demonstrated interest in population aspects of international development work. Contact: Fellowship Office, Rockefeller Foundation, 1133 Ave. of the Americas, New York, NY 10036.

## CORRECTION

September's Spotlight on Mexico in PT contained a misleading typographical error, as more than one sharp-eyed reader pointed out. Mexico's infant mortality rate is 55 infant deaths per 1000 live births, not the 550 mistakenly printed. □

## TAKE A NUMBER . . .

**Workus Interruptus:** Fifty-four percent of working women reported experiencing a work interruption of at least 6 months in order to take care of a home or family. Only 1 percent of men had taken similar leaves, according to a recently released survey by the Census Bureau. Black women workers were less likely than white women to have interrupted their work for family reasons, but about one-quarter of black women were jobless for at least half a year because they couldn't find work, compared with about one-tenth of white female workers. Women make, on average, $4.38 per hour, 63 percent of the $6.92 earned by men, according to this 1979 household survey report. The interrupted labor results in lower levels of general work experience, which would account for some of the disparity in average incomes between women and men. The study, however—although experimental—concludes that work experience and interruptions account for little of this gap. The report estimates that the difference in earnings would be reduced by only 12 percent if women were assumed to have the same levels of experience and interruptions as men.

**China's Labor Force:** Additional tabulations from China's 1982 Census show that the Chinese labor force reflects the country's very early stage of development. Fully 92 percent of employed persons were in manual, rather than "mental," occupations. Three-fourths of the workers are in farming, forestry, animal husbandry, and fisheries.

**The Real Americans:** 1.4 million American Indians were identified in the 1980 Census, an increase of over 72 percent since 1970. This increase is not only a result of natural increase but also of improved census procedures and a greater tendency in 1980 to identify as Native American, according to a report from the Census Bureau. More than half of American Indians lived in the West, with California, Oklahoma, Arizona and New Mexico accounting for 46 percent of the total Indian population. Slightly more than one-third were living on Indian lands in 1980, with 70 percent of those living in Indian areas on 278 reservations. Indians were first counted in the 1860 Census, not always with great care. The 1930 Census did make a special effort and counted about 330,000 (there are estimated to have been almost 1 million in precolonial days). It now appears that American Indians will assume greater statistical importance since they identify themselves more often on censuses and probably have higher fertility than the general U.S. population.

## addenda . . .

cathy©
by Cathy Guisewite
EVERY TIME I TURN AROUND ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE BABY BOOM GENERATION IS PREGNANT. THIS WAS NOT SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN TO US.
I KNOW. WE GREW UP, WE GOT INDEPENDENT, WE THREW OUT THE NOTION OF MOTHERHOOD...
...AND NOW MOTHERHOOD HAS COME FLYING RIGHT BACK AT US.
WHAT'S GOING ON WITH EVERY-ONE, CATHY?!
THE BABY BOOMERANG.

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# CURRENT READINGS

*PRB welcomes materials on population topics for possible inclusion in Current Readings. Publishers may address review copies to Book Review Editor, POPULATION TODAY, Population Reference Bureau, 2213 M St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.*

**ABORTION AND THE POLITICS OF MOTHERHOOD by Kristin Luker. Berkeley: University of California Press. 1984. 324 pages. $14.95. ISBN 0-520-04314-6**

Prof. Luker states in her preface that if she has done her job right, a reader who has already made up his mind about abortion issues will conclude that the author has been unfairly generous to the reader's opposition and unfairly critical of the reader's stand.

The first part of the book offers a history of the abortion debate. Until the late 1950s, the debates were primarily technical ones among physicians. Later, moral issues came into the foreground and the questions of the personhood of the embryo became the subject of passionate discussions. The second part is devoted to the thinking of people active in the present-day debate. Luker includes extensive excerpts from interviews with abortion activists to highlight the different claims and underlying philosophies. A final chapter sets out the essentials of the contending arguments and permits the author to speculate how the differences might ultimately be narrowed. For once a dust jacket describes a book accurately: this is a balanced, comprehensive, and lucid study.

*—Conrad Taeuber*

**INTERNATIONAL HISTORICAL STATISTICS: The Americas and Australasia by B.R. Mitchell. Detroit: Gale Publishing Company. 1983. 949 pages $95.00. ISBN 0-8103-0520-8.**

If you wanted to know the output of wine from Brazil between 1890 and 1934 this book would be the place to look. *International Historical Statistics* has the official figures of seemingly any social or economic aspect of the history of the Americas and Australasia.

Each section is introduced by a few paragraphs about the limitations of the data. Lack of data, inconsistent definitions between nations and within nations at different times, and unreliability of sources cited as typical are obstacles to accurate statistical analysis. Mitchell reminds us that we usually cannot check up on the reputations of past compilers. Prior to the 20th century, statistics were often collected for military or taxation purposes. Such figures were probably distorted by respondents' understatement of their age or wealth. Exaggeration of population and wealth in an attempt to impress enemies and bolster its own image is perhaps a more recent development. One contribution that this book makes to the statistical field is its emphasis that numbers are as much historical artifacts as more subjective records.

*—Anthony Agresta*

**SEX SELECTION OF CHILDREN. edited by Neil G. Bennett. New York: Academic Press. 1983. 256 pages. $35.00. ISBN 0-12-088860-2**

The authors in this collection write about diverse aspects of sex selection in childbearing. Sex selection technology reveals some not so surprising differences in status between the sexes even in countries with egalitarian pretensions. The authors write about ways of measuring preferences in various cultures, and the economic basis for them. They discuss methods and consequences of the technologies that allow for selection (whether to determine family composition or sequence of children), and develop models that show their use. Also analyzed are the ethical issues of pre- and postfertilization methods of selection.

One chapter analyzes the impact of selection on fertility, asking whether parents satisfied with their family's sex composition will stop producing children, or whether they will go on to have more children, knowing that they run no risk of having a "wrong" sex child. Several authors examine the tricky legal and policy implications of decisions on sex selection; restrictions on sex-selective abortions might, for example, limit a woman's access to abortion. Should sex selection research be encouraged? Who will use the technology if it is perfected? Although folk methods have been practiced for ages, the new technology renders sex-selection a complex practicality.

*—Margaret Greene*

**EVALUATING POPULATION PROGRAMS: International Experience with Cost-effectiveness Analysis and Cost-benefit Analysis. By Ismail Sirageldin, et al., eds. New York: St. Martin's Press. 1983. 534 pages. $40.00.**

The book is the outcome of an International Workshop on Cost-Effectiveness and Cost-Benefit Analysis of Population Planning Programs at St. Michaels, Maryland in 1981, organized by the Population Center of the Johns Hopkins University and supported by the Agency for International Development. It covers a wide spectrum of theoretical and methodological aspects of the cost-benefit, cost-effectiveness debate in a series of general essays. Part Two applies this discussion to various country studies in Africa and Latin America as well as two Asian countries, India and Thailand.

Despite the difficulty of measuring fertility regulation programs in monetary terms, the reality is that allocation decisions regarding funds generally are made on the basis of cost benefit analysis. While the question of impact of family planning programs on fertility reduction is not expected to be resolved soon, the future environment will probably involve greater financial accountability. Furthermore, greater competition for funding and more selective resource allocation is expected to precipitate the demand for quantitative cost-benefit analyses and evaluation of outcome. To that end this book makes an important contribution.

*—Alex von Cube*

## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

**AN EXPERIMENT ABOUT FAMILY PLANNING ATTITUDE CHANGE**, by Chaonan Eddie Chen. Nankang, Taiwan: Institute of Economics Academia Sinica, 1983. 154 pages.

**ANNUAL REVIEW OF POPULATION LAW, 1982 (vol 9)**. New York: U.N.F.P.A., 1984. 433 pages.

**FERTILITY AND FAMILY: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION, 1984**. New York: United Nations, 1984. 476 pages.

**FERTILITY IN PAKISTAN: A REVIEW OF FINDINGS FROM THE PAKISTAN FERTILITY SURVEY**, edited by Iqbal Alam et al. Voorburg, Netherlands: International Statistical Institute, 1984. 259 pages.

**FERTILITY IN THE PHILIPPINES: FURTHER ANALYSIS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FERTILITY SURVEY 1978**, edited by Luisa Engracia. Voorburg, Netherlands: International Statistical Institute, 1984. 222 pages.

**IMMIGRATION REFORM AND AGRICULTURAL LABOR**, by Robert Coltrane. Washington, D.C.: Dept. of Agriculture, 1984. 31 pages.

**1981 STATISTICAL YEARBOOK OF THE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE**. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept. of Justice, 1984. 144 pages.

**POPULATION DISTRIBUTION, MIGRATION, AND DEVELOPMENT: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION, 1984**. New York: United Nations, 1984. 505 pages.

**STATISTICS, ASIA AND AUSTRALIA: SOURCES FOR SOUND ECONOMIC AND MARKET RESEARCH**, by Joan M. Harvey. Kent, England: CBD Research Ltd., (distributed by Gale Resesarch Co.), 1983. 440 pages.

**TEENAGE PREGNANCY IN THE CARIBBEAN**, by Tirbani P. Jagdeo. New York: I.P.P.F., 1984. 144 pages.

**THE ENERGY TRAP: WORK, NUTRITION AND CHILD MALNUTRITION IN NORTHERN NIGERIA**, by Richard Longhurst. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell International Nutrition Monograph Series #13, 1984. 101 pages.

**THE FORECASTING ACCURACY OF MAJOR TIME SERIES METHODS**, by S. Makeidu Nis et al. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1984. 301 pages. $39.95.

# SPOTLIGHT

## JAPAN

Population, 1984: 119,900,000
Population per sq. mile: 813
Births per 1,000 pop., 1982: 12.9
Deaths per 1,000 pop., 1982: 6.1
Annual rate of population growth, 1984: 0.7 percent
Area: 147,470 sq. miles (slightly smaller than California)
Major exports, 1983: Manufactures 96% (28% automobiles, 25% machinery, 13% iron and steel) — $145 billion
Major imports, 1983: 50% fossil fuels, 19% manufactures, 13% foodstuffs, 5% machinery — $125 billion

Lying off the east coast of the Soviet Union and the Koreas, Japan forms a 2,000 mile archipelago of about 3,300 islands, the chief ones being Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku, and Kyushu. The country is one of the world's most densely populated areas and must deal with a low proportion of land available for farming. But highly efficient agricultural methods enable the 120 million Japanese to be self-sufficient in rice, although they must import about half the cereals and soybeans they consume.

With few natural resources, Japan must generate export earnings to purchase raw materials needed for industry as well as food. This creates a continuing strain on the economy.

One of the most striking features of Japan's recent demographic history was the very sharp postwar decline in the birth rate. In 1947, abortion on demand was legalized and the birth rate dropped from 34.3 per 1,000 population to 17.2 in just 10 years. At first, this drop had the desired effect—fewer mouths to feed, but today Japan is facing many of the same problems of other industrialized countries with aging populations. Wages tied to seniority in an aging labor force have raised the specter of a Japanese labor force priced out of the market, and future expenditure for pensions and old-age medical care could rise from the present 10 percent of national income to 30 or 40 percent.

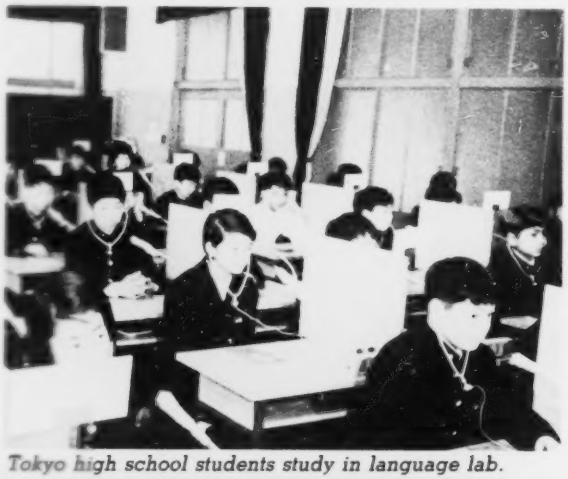
Japanese fertility is at about the same level as the U.S., 1.7 children per woman, a rate below that necessary to insure long-term population growth. One dramatic example from Japan of the effects of modern family planning is the large drop in births in 1966, the "year of the fiery horse." Superstition holds that a woman born in this year, which comes every 60 years, will have a difficult life; births dropped from 1.8 million in 1965 to 1.4 million in 1966, then rebounded to 2.0 million in 1967.

Although Japan's total fertility rate is about the same as in the U.S., Japanese women actually have a preference for somewhat larger families. In a 1984 survey of married women conducted by the Population Problems Research Council and the Mainichi Newspapers, 2.6 children was given as the ideal, compared to 2.0 in the U.S. Another survey, conducted by the Ministry of Health and Welfare in 1982 gave a somewhat lower figure, 2.2 children "wanted" for wives and 2.4 for husbands.

Abortion is used primarily as a backup for contraception, which is practiced by 60 percent of married women. In the 1984 survey, 54 percent of the women aged 45-49 had at least one abortion. However, attitudes indicate rather high levels of disapproval of the practice. About 80 percent of women stated that they either felt guilty or felt sorry for the fetus. In addition, a little less than half disapproved when the reason for abortion is family economic difficulties and two-thirds disapproved when the reason was simple contraceptive failure. Survey data suggest that crowding plays an important role in limiting family size. The average Japanese housing unit is only 750 sq. feet, and couples who have only one or two rooms at marriage are 2.5 times more likely to have an abortion than those with five rooms.

Japan's population has shown a continuing tendency to concentrate in a few large metropolitan areas. In 1980 Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya accounted for 50 percent of the total population. Those cities have, in turn, spread to suburban areas distant from the central city so that it is quite common for Japanese to commute 3-4 hours per day to and from their jobs.

Japan has been able to deal with postwar challenges by overcoming the lack of raw materials and cropland with highly efficient industry and farming methods. Nonetheless, the country must exist with its ever-present heavy dependence on overseas suppliers. And then there is the new problem of aging. Referring to the postwar decrease in the birth rate and the benefits it provided at first, economist Naohiro Ogawa told the *Wall Street Journal*, "In effect, Japan had a terrific dinner in the 1950s and 1960s. Today we are getting the bill." □



Embassy of Japan

*Tokyo high school students study in language lab.*

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# POPULATION TODAY™

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David Friedman

National Survey of Family Growth tracks U.S. fertility patterns. See page 2.

A Publication of the Population Reference Bureau, Inc.

# Sterilization, Breastfeeding on the Rise

*Sterilization is now the leading contraceptive method in the U.S., though married women under 30 and unmarried women still favor the pill. Black women are more likely than white women to use the most effective female contraceptive methods—female sterilization, the pill, and IUD—although they are much less likely than white women to use contraception at first intercourse. The rapid rise in teenagers' premarital sexual intercourse recorded during the 1970s did not continue into the 1980s. The proportion of children born to ever-married women that were unwanted at conception is at its lowest level ever. However, births coming sooner than planned by young married women have increased slightly in the past decade. Infertility increased among married women aged 20-24 between 1965 and 1982. Breastfeeding has made a comeback in the U.S.*

**Current Contraceptive Use: 1982**

Percent distribution of those using contraception, by method

| Characteristics | Female sterilization | Male sterilization | Pill | IUD | Diaphragm | Condom | Rhythm | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total | 21.9 | 10.8 | 28.6 | 7.3 | 8.3 | 12.2 | 4.0 | 5.7 |
| Age | | | | | | | | |
| 15-19 | — | 0.4 | 63.9 | 1.3 | 6.0 | 20.8 | 2.0 | 4.7 |
| 20-24 | 3.9 | 3.6 | 55.4 | 4.2 | 10.3 | 10.7 | 3.4 | 7.5 |
| 25-29 | 13.2 | 5.6 | 35.1 | 10.4 | 12.6 | 10.9 | 4.5 | 6.6 |
| 30-34 | 27.9 | 15.0 | 16.9 | 9.5 | 8.3 | 12.8 | 4.1 | 4.0 |
| 35-39 | 41.1 | 17.7 | 5.9 | 7.7 | 4.0 | 11.9 | 4.6 | 5.2 |
| 40-44 | 44.4 | 22.4 | 1.2 | 6.3 | 4.2 | 11.3 | 4.0 | 5.5 |
| White | 20.8 | 12.1 | 27.2 | 7.0 | 9.0 | 12.9 | 4.0 | 5.7 |
| Black | 28.0 | 1.5 | 39.1 | 9.4 | 3.6 | 6.4 | 3.2 | 6.8 |

From the *Bulletin*.

These are among the main findings, newly released, from the latest National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), the U.S. government's nationwide fertility survey conducted every few years by the National Center for Health Statistics. The NSFG yields a more complete picture of American women's fertility-related behavior than is obtainable from any other source.

A total of 7,969 women were surveyed by specially trained female interviewers in hour-long interviews in the women's own homes. The questions covered the women's histories of pregnancies and births, contraceptive use, marital status and employment, their future childbearing expectations, use of family planning and infertility services, and a wide range of social, economic, and demographic characteristics.

The first overview of findings from interviews between August 1982 and February 1983 has been released in PRB's *Bulletin* for December 1984, "Understanding U.S. Fertility: Findings from the National Survey of Family Growth, Cycle III." The authors are NSFG staff director William Pratt and his colleagues William Mosher, Christine Bachrach, and Marjorie Horn.

Highlights of the findings presented in the PRB *Bulletin* include:

- Fifty-five percent of American women aged 15-44 were using contraception in 1982: 68 percent of currently married women, 35 percent of never-married women, and 24 percent of women aged 15-19.
- Sterilization was used by 33 percent of contraceptors overall (22 percent, female sterilization; 11 percent, male sterilization), followed by the pill (29 percent), condom (12 percent), diaphragm (8 percent), and IUD (7 percent). (NCHS now refers to sterilization as a "contraceptive.")
- The pill was used by 53 percent of never-married contraceptors and 64 percent of contracepting teenagers aged 15-19, but only 1 percent of contraceptors aged 40-44. About 8 percent of contracepting women aged 20-24 reported that they or their partners had been sterilized; at ages 40-44 the proportion was 67 percent.
- Seventy-eight percent of black contraceptors in 1982 were using sterilization—almost all female sterilization—the pill, or IUD, compared to 67 percent of white contraceptors.
- Catholic women using contraception are more likely than their Protestant counterparts to use the rhythm methods (6 versus 3 percent) but nearly as likely to use the pill (28 versus 30 percent).

*Continued on page 8*

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## Famine Worsens in Ethiopia

The past two years have seen an already bad food situation in Ethiopia reach devastating proportions. Yet only in the past six weeks has the famine been in the forefront of U.S. consciousness. After the Oct. 23 airing on NBC of BBC film footage depicting the misery of millions of starving Ethiopians, the rest of the media ensured virtual daily coverage of the situation, with much commentary on causes of and solutions for the problem. After the broadcast, the American public responded with millions of dollars in pledges. The U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) also increased its aid.

In the past Ethiopia has suffered severe famine, but not of this magnitude. The most recent such famine, in 1973-74, resulted in an estimated 200,000 deaths. Projections of the potential death toll from this famine vary from 500,000 to more than a million.

The suffering in Ethiopia is not isolated. The crippling drought there has struck or will strike much of sub-Saharan Africa as well. AID Administrator M. Peter McPherson reports that famine threatens at least six of the continent's other countries in the coming months—Niger, Mali, Chad, the western Sudan, Kenya, and Mozambique—and that some 20 African countries in all are facing serious food difficulties. (See World Food News, page 10.)

Ethiopia, however, represents an especially difficult case for those offering relief. The country's political situation has caused immense complications. Depending on what commentary the reader consults, the Ethiopian government is at fault for ignoring the famine while spending an estimated $100 million to celebrate the 10th anniversary of its Marxist regime, for perpetuating the country's debilitating civil war, and for not allowing the food aid it has received to be expeditiously distributed. Alternatively, the U.S. is at fault for not responding sooner and/or more generously to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization's estimates of food needs, or to Ethiopia's pleas for aid. The U.S. has also been accused of allowing political concerns to override the clear need for action.

In any case, the current scenario presents a unique opportunity for international cooperation. Already a coordinated effort has been brought about where Western food has been airlifted into stricken regions by Soviet aircraft. And Eastern bloc countries such as Bulgaria have pledged food and transportation aid in an example of political oneupmanship which benefits the starving in Ethiopia. Since the U.S. and other Western nations have the food, and the Soviet Union has the necessary political leverage, Ethiopia would seem to be a perfect test case for East-West cooperation. □

## Depo-Provera Nixed

Depo-Provera should not be approved for contraceptive use in the U.S., a Public Board of Inquiry has recommended. The outside board was appointed in 1982 by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to review the status of the controversial drug, and its decision has been long awaited. The point of contention regarding Depo-Provera, an injectable long-lasting progestin, has been whether it will cause cancer in its users. Tests performed by the Upjohn Company, the manufacturers of the drug, have shown Depo to induce cancer in laboratory dogs and monkeys. Upjohn maintains that the tests are not conclusive for human beings. The Board of Inquiry, however, decided that the test findings cannot be dismissed as irrelevant to human beings without contrary evidence, which it says does not exist.

Upjohn says it plans to "take issue with" the Board's report. It estimates that 5 to 9 percent of women in the U.S. would use the drug if it were approved by the FDA. The main attraction of Depo-Provera is its ease of use. A woman injected once every three or six months is protected from pregnancy with an efficacy rate comparable to the pill.

Unlike most drugs under FDA scrutiny, Depo has been used by millions of women in some 80 countries worldwide since 1967. The results of its use appear to be favorable, though usage studies have been few. Increased evidence of cancer was not, however, found in the few studies among women which were conducted. Depo has been endorsed by several prominent organizations, including the World Health Organization, the International Planned Parenthood Federation's Medical Advisory Panel, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Opponents of the drug include the National Women's Health Network and the Health Research Group (a Ralph Nader organization).

Though its cancer risk is not known, Depo-Provera's side effects are. For many women, it disrupts menstruation, causing bleeding and spotting. It can also bring on amenorrhea (no menstruation) which continues as long as the drug is used. Side effects also include weight gain, possibly the raising of blood glucose levels, and sometimes dizziness and nausea. The widely used pill has side effects as well, including an increased risk of circulatory disease (especially for smokers), headaches, and heightened blood pressure. □

## Natural Disasters: Not So Natural?

A report just issued by Earthscan, and the Swedish Red Cross suggests that an increase in the number of natural disasters since the 1960s may not be a consequence of nature after all.

In Ethiopia, deforestation caused the runoff of what rain there was, which contributed to the current famine. In that case, rainwater was not absorbed by the ground. It is thought that, at the beginning of this century about 40 percent of Ethiopia was covered by vegetation. That now shows as 4 percent in satellite photographs.

In Bangladesh, runoff from the partially deforested Himalayas is likewise thought to be the chief cause of this spring's flooding. The resulting delay in planting will likely cause food shortages in that country in the near future. As always, these problems fall more upon the poor than on other classes. Not only does poverty put restraints on people's ability to cope with disaster, but the necessity to try to eke a living from useless land compounds the problem.

Copies of the report are available for $5.50 from: Earthscan, 1717 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. □

**SURVEY REPORT**

## Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic has taken its third national fertility survey in eight years, the most recent being the 1983 Contraceptive Prevalence Survey. The results of this survey, conducted in collaboration with Westinghouse Health Systems and with funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development, have just been released.

The survey data indicate that fertility has continued to drop in the country, from a total fertility rate of about 5.1 lifetime births per woman at the 1975 survey to 4.1 in 1983. A large proportion of this drop, about two-thirds, can be attributred to sharp fertility decreases among women aged 35 and over.

The country is about one-third the size of Florida and its present 6.3 million population is expected to grow to about 13 million by 2020, finally stabilizing around 15 million, assuming that the "two-child family" is reached by the year 2010.

Despite the recent decline in the birth rate, the survey gives evidence that preferred family size is still quite high. Only 15 percent of the sample said that they considered 2 children or fewer to be the ideal and about 40 percent thought that 5 or more children would be desirable. While that may be the ideal, a larger number of women said that they wished to cease their actual childbearing earlier. Eighty percent of the sample with 3 living children stated that they wanted no more children.

When questioned as to their knowledge and use of contraception, 46 percent of the currently married women said that they were using some method; female sterilization accounted for slightly more than half of those limiting family size, with the pill a distant second.

The current policy of the government is to reduce the rate of population growth by means of fertility reduction and to decrease unacceptable levels of mortality. Much of the success of the former will depend upon the distribution of family planning services in this mountainous country and some shift in traditional family size preferences. □

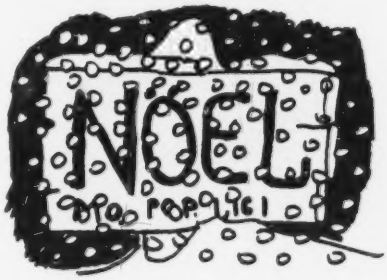
## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

It's been a year of major population events. A year that saw the entire philosophy of population programs become an area of controversy, at least in the U.S.; the convening of the International Population Conference in Mexico City; the cresting of the drought and famine in Ethiopia and other sub-Saharan countries (see page 3), as well as other issues.

With this issue, incidentally, *Population Today* completes its first year as PRB's chronicle of the world's population news. And from this vantage, the most striking aspect of the news that swirls past (which we try our best to present to our readers) is that by gum, demography has consequences—or at any rate, affects issues far and wide. To the extent *PT* has conveyed the sense that everything-is-connected-to-everything-else-demographically, we've succeeded in our mandate of communicating the *real* population news. Look for expanded coverage of the world of population in our issues in 1985 and beyond.

*—Art Haupt*

## O Little Town of...




If Santa were to enlist the aid of demographers or geographers in planning his incredible one-nighter, how would they advise him? Well, they might dive into one of the big demographic datasets and pull out population concentration and distribution charts, or these days, match Santa's toy selection to the U.S.'s "lifestyle clusters." But there's another way, and it's more fun.

As he wings across the winter sky, Mr. Claus encounters many towns with singular names. After a national blur of Washingtons, Jeffersons, Springfields, and Yarmouths, it must be a nominal relief to come upon Frostproof, Fla., or Welcome, La., Zap, N.D., Love, Okla., Eclectic, Ala., George, Wash., Ten Sleep, Wyo., Covert, Mich., Hygiene, Colo., What Cheer, Iowa, Boring, Ore., not to mention Pennsylvania's many colorful monikers.

But to get truly on his way, Santa might steer toward places with seasonal names. Bethlehem, Pa., of course, but how about a few others: Angelica, N.Y., Blessing, Tex., Paradise, Utah, Star, N.C., Star City, Ind., Holiday Hills, Ill., Snowflake, Ariz., Holly, Colo. and Mich., and St. Joseph, Ill.

We were unable to turn up any towns with such names as Santa Claus, Kris Kringle, or Johnny Mathis. But Santa probably smiles every year when he arrives in Christmas, Mich., pop. 750; or Noel, Mo., pop. 1,161. □

# Demographers Seek New Ways to Study the Family

Changes in the basic unit of human society—the family—may be outstripping current methods of measurement and analysis. Responding to a growing sense of urgency among family demographers that old approaches to family research are no longer adequate, 30 specialists in the field met in West Berlin, Sept. 3-7, 1984, to compare research and approach new ways of studying family patterns and change.

Looking at major transitions in the cycle of families, such as divorce, remarriage, children leaving home, widowhood and retirement, the researchers agreed that family events today are more heterogeneous and harder to classify than in the past. The types of family groups are becoming more varied, the pace of transition from one type of family to another is quickening, the probability that an average individual will experience more than one family type in the course of a lifetime is increasing, and the spectrum of nonmarital unions is widening.

The consensus heard at the conference was that "the years of brushing aside these problems are over." Demographers around the world must abandon old classifications, such as single, married, divorced, widowed, and seek new concepts and new techniques to describe and measure family processes.

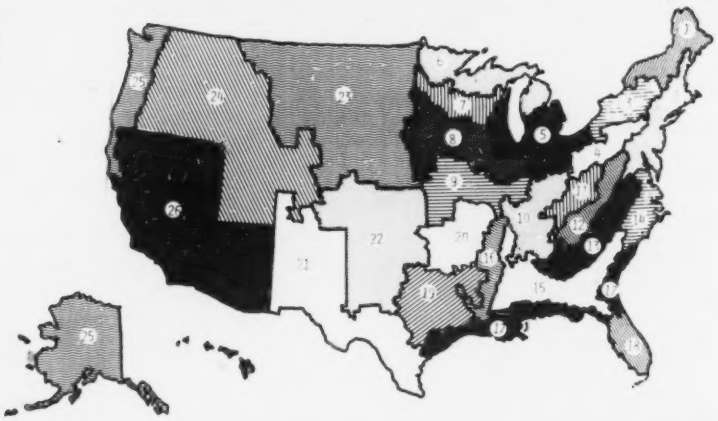
The need for demographers to develop innovative approaches to family research is important for policy reasons as well as for the study of population trends. The conferees particularly stressed the impact of early changes in family patterns for the kind of social support people can turn to in later life.

Examples of issues raised include: the effect of divorce on rates of children returning home; how higher levels of divorce and remarriage might affect the proximity of adult children to their older parents; how the kinds and amounts of support, sustenance, and financial assistance provided by older people's families are affected by kinship ties to the older generation.

A major conclusion of the conference was that greater effort must be made to coordinate the work of demographers with that of specialists in other fields: sociologists, anthropologists, and social workers. While demographers, for example, have developed intricate models to simulate the numbers of close relatives available to future generations of older people, there has been little attempt to pass from computer predictions of kin to assessment of what these numbers mean in terms of kin potentially able and willing to provide actual care.

The conference, "The Demography of the Later Phases of the Family Life Cycle," was sponsored by the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) and the German Association for the Scientific Study of Population. The sponsors plan to publish a collection of papers from the conference at a later date. □

## SPEAKING GRAPHICALLY



A few years ago, demographer Calvin Beale of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, who closely follows U.S. population geography, came out with a map, redrawn by PRB above, dividing the nation into 26 subregions based on population, economic, and geographic cohesiveness. (See names below.)

Such a map has many demographic uses – for example, economists would probably find out-migration from Beale's "Northern Appalachian Coal Fields" more significant than out-migration from West Virginia per se. But stare at the map long enough, and you start to wonder—why aren't the U.S.'s state lines more like this? Tradition and Law aside, the 26 subregions probably make more geo-administrative sense as states than the 50 present ones. (Though one could argue that the very heterogeneity of many states is what has kept them healthy.) Anyway, the grandiose process of renaming the states has a kind of charm; why not, for openers, "Mohawk," "Palmetto," "Augustaton," "Ozark," and "Dune"?

Beale's subregions: 1. Northern New England—St. Lawrence; 2. Northeastern Metropolitan Belt; 3. Mohawk Valley and N.Y.-Pa. Border; 4. Northern Appalachian Coal Fields; 5. Lower Great Lakes Industrial; 6. Upper Great Lakes; 7. Dairy Belt; 8. Central Corn Belt; 9. Southern Corn Belt; 10. Southern Interior Uplands; 11. Southern Appalachian Coal Fields; 12. Blue Ridge, Great Smokies, and Great Valley; 13. Southern Piedmont; 14. Coastal Plain Tobacco and Peanut Belt; 15. Old Coastal Plain Cotton Belt; 16. Mississippi Delta; 17. Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Coast; 18. Fla. Peninsula; 19. East Texas and Adjoining Coastal Plain; 20. Ozark-Ouachita Uplands; 21. Rio Grande; 22. Southern Great Plains; 23. Northern Great Plains; 24. Rocky Mountains, Mormon Valleys, and Columbia Basin; 25. Northern Pacific Coast and Alaska; 26. The Southwest and Hawaii.

## Correction

Two unfortunate typos appeared in Table 1 of the "Dynamics of Population Momentum" by Murray Gendell, which was published in the November 1984 *PT*. The proportion of Philippine women of reproductive age for 1960-65 should have read "21.8 percent;" the general fertility rate projected for women of reproductive age in 2020-25 should have read "62" per 1,000 women. *PT* regrets the errors. □

# DEMOGRAPHER'S

## Quebec: The Empty Cradle

**by André Lux**

Quebec Province, or P.Q. as it is often abbreviated, has been something of a demographic and linguistic anomaly throughout its history. Fewer than 10,000 French colonists settled in New France between 1608, when Champlain founded Quebec City, until British conquest in 1760. At that time, it seemed that the 60,000 French residents of what is now Quebec Province would soon be assimilated. This was not to be, and at the time of the 1981 Census the province's population was 83 percent French speaking. French is the official language and is used exclusively in the school system. Visitors to Quebec see many signs of Quebec "nationalism," such as frequent displays of the provincial blue and white flag on equal terms with the red national flag and provincial pennants everywhere. In 1982, a vote to secede from the country was narrowly defeated, but signs urging one to vote "oui" were ubiquitous.

The demography of 17th and 18th Century New France differed from the mother country in a number of ways. Marriage rates in the new land were about 10 percent higher and fertility about 50 percent higher, although mortality was about one-third lower. While women's average age at first marriage did rise from 15.4 prior to 1660 to 22 in the 1700s and birth and marriage rates fell a bit after 1775, married women maintained the extraordinary average of 7.1 children per woman.

After 1815, a dramatic increase in British immigration threatened the supremacy of the French language in the province. By 1851, French speakers accounted for only three-fourths of the population and only about half in Montreal itself. Massive emigration of French speakers to New England after 1851 reduced these proportions still further. By 1930, one million Quebecois had departed, a population loss of about 5 percent per decade.

### Revenge of the Cradle

Quebec's high fertility after the British conquest is often called "revenge of the cradle" (revanche des berceaux). During 1851-1921, fertility fell throughout Canada, but not as fast in Quebec. (See Table 1.) In Quebec, the total fertility rate* fell from 6.8 births per woman in 1851 to 5.3 in 1921; in the rest of Canada, the TFR began from a slightly higher level, 7.1, but dropped to 3.5 over the same period.

This slower decline in fertility helped to compensate for the province's out-migration and the fact that mortality was somewhat higher in Quebec. From 1851 to 1921, life expectancy at birth rose from 40.9 years to only 53.3; for the rest of the country, it rose to 58.1. Thus, the demographic transition was well under way in English-speaking Canada, but had only barely begun in Quebec. At the same time, heavy immigration into the other provinces caused Quebec's share of the national population to fall from 38 percent in 1851 to 27 percent in 1921.

### Post-1921: A Revolution

The year 1921 marked a real turning point in the demographic behavior of this rural Catholic province. By 1939, the fertility of Quebec had begun to converge with the national average. In 1939, the TFR had declined to 3.3, about one-third higher than that of the rest of Canada, in 1921, it had been 50 percent higher.

As a result of this plunge, Quebec also experienced less of a baby boom than the rest of the country between 1939 and 1957 and its "excess" fertility almost disappeared. Quebec's baby boom TFR went up to 4.1, an increase of 25 percent, while that of the other provinces increased 60 percent, to 3.9. Much of Quebec's fertility decline since 1921 can be attributed to a drop in the marriage rate; all other things being equal, this alone would have lowered fertility 8 to 17 percent below that of the other provinces.

A more lasting effect of the demographic revolution in Quebec was the TFR collapse after 1964. By 1966, Quebec's TFR was below that of Canada, by 1970 below the

*The total fertility rate (TFR) is the average number of children a woman would have throughout her childbearing years at the rates of a given year. A TFR of about 2 is often called "the replacement level" since each couple effectively "replaces itself." A TFR less than 2 means that a population will ultimately decrease, a TFR above 2 will insure continued future growth.

**Table 1: Total Fertility Rate, Quebec vs. Rest of Canada**

| | Year | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Item | 1851 | 1921 | 1939 | 1957 | 1966 | 1971 | 1976 | 1981 | 1983 |
| Quebec | 6.84 | 5.29 | 3.28 | 4.09 | 2.72 | 1.99 | 1.81 | 1.62 | 1.46 |
| Rest of Canada | 7.10 | 3.45 | 2.42 | 3.87 | 2.85 | 2.27 | 1.83 | 1.76 | -- |
| Quebec/R. of C. | 0.96 | 1.53 | 1.36 | 1.06 | 0.95 | 0.88 | 0.99 | 0.92 | -- |

*Sources. Démographie québécoise*, 95-96, Henripin, table 2.3, Statistics Canada, Vital Statistics.

# PAGE

**André Lux is on the Faculty of Social Sciences, Université Laval, Quebec.**

replacement level, and, in 1983, it was one of the lowest in the world at 1.46.

This dramatic fertility decrease has been accompanied by spectacular increases in abortion and sterilization. Abortion has been legal in Canada since 1969 and, in Quebec, the abortion ratio rose from 1.4 abortions per 100 live births in 1971 to 14.9 in 1981. In 1973, 63 out of 1,000 women had been sterilized and that proportion rose to 245 by 1981. By early 1980, 51 percent of 40-year-old women, 39 percent of those age 35, and 18 percent of those 30 had been sterilized. There is clearly nothing temporary about Quebec's low fertility for women over 30.

### Quebec's Future in Canada

Once Canada's highest fertility province, Quebec now has the lowest. Coupled with continuing out-migration, what does this mean for its future within the country? Its demographic and political weight has diminished. Its proportion of the national population—and thus its share in the federal Parliament—has fallen from 38 percent in 1851 to 26 percent in 1982; this is projected to decline to 24 percent by 2000. In addition, low fertility is, of course, causing an aging of the population. By 2051, persons 65 and over could comprise a fourth of the population (see Table 2) and the total size of the population could actually be below that of today. Thus, Quebec presents an example of demographic change which is fairly typical of the developed world, but at the same time, somewhat unusual given the province's history.

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*Translated by Margaret Greene and Jean van der Tak*

**Table 2: Age Structure of Quebec's Population, Following Two Scenarios**

*Scenario A:* TFR of 1.6, life expectancy of 75.2, net out-migration of 8,000 per year
*Scenario B:* TFR of 1.8, life expectancy of 75.2, no net out-migration

| Ages | Year 1981 | 2001 (A) | 2001 (B) | 2051 (A) | 2051 (B) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0-19 | 32.1 | 24.7 | 26.3 | 18.4 | 21.9 |
| 20-44 | 39.9 | 36.8 | 36.2 | 28.8 | 31.0 |
| 45-64 | 19.2 | 25.6 | 25.0 | 26.9 | 25.7 |
| 65-79 | 7.2 | 10.0 | 9.7 | 17.8 | 14.8 |
| 80+ | 1.5 | 2.9 | 2.8 | 8.2 | 6.6 |
| Pop. total (1981 = 100) | 100 | 105.4 | 108.4 | 73.1 | 94.4 |

*Source.* Démographie québécoise, table 12.4.

## Small Is Electric

The shape of future energy production is changing as energy efficient programs and small-scale power production is reshaping the electricity industry, according to the latest Worldwatch Paper, "Electricity's Future: The Shift to Efficiency and Small-Scale Power," by Christopher Flavin. Emphasis is shifting away from large coal and nuclear power plants, the report says.

This shift to small-scale power is being led not by the utilities, but by large industrial companies who are building their own power systems and small companies who are tapping new energy sources such as wind, hydropower, and geothermal energy. Because of this new competition, utility monopoly of electric generation may soon come to an end.

Advances in small power production are being led by cogeneration—the combined production of heat and power—which has become the fastest growing power source in the U.S. Most such plants are installed in factories or large institutional buildings such as hospitals, with power sold to utilities.

California, always a step ahead of the game, has an electricity future already dominated by these small-scale power sources, according to the study. By mid-1984 enough small, independent sources were planned or under construction to supply 20 percent of the state's power by 1990. New small-scale energy sources will not only meet projected growth in California's electricity demand but allow much of the state's fossil fuel-power generation to be phased out.

Flavin is optimistic about the future: "The changes now shaking up the industry offer hope for reliable and affordable electricity supplies—without serious environmental risk." □

Copies of *Worldwatch Paper 61*, "Electricity's Future: The Shift to Efficiency and Small-Scale Power," by Christopher Flavin, are available from PRB. Single copies are $4.00 each; 2-5 copies, $3.00 each; 6-20 copies, $2.00 each; 21 or more $1.00 each. Orders and checks (made payable to PRB) should be sent to: PRB, Circulation Department, P.O. Box 35012, Washington, DC, 20013 (PRB assists the Worldwatch Institute in the distribution of its papers).

## Sterilization, Breastfeeding

*Continued from Page 2*

- Among married contraceptors, pill use dropped from 36 percent in 1973 to 20 percent in 1982; female sterilization rose from 12 to 26 percent.
- Fewer than half (47 percent) of white women aged 15-44 in 1982 had used contraception at first intercourse; for blacks the figure was only 34 percent.
- Continuing the decline in overall fertility and in unwanted births since the baby boom peak in 1957, the average number of children already born to ever-married women aged 15-44 dropped from 2.2 to 1.9 per woman between 1973 and 1982 and the proportion of these births that were wanted at conception increased from 85 to 89 percent. However, births conceived sooner than planned increased slightly among young married women between 1973 and 1982, probably due to the large drop in pill use since 1973 by couples still intending to have more children and their increased use of the less effective diaphragm and condom.
- Among never-married women aged 15-19 in 1982, 40 percent of whites and 58 percent of blacks had had intercourse. These figures were lower than findings on teenagers' premarital sexual activity recorded in 1979 in a nationwide survey of women 15-19 living in metropolitan areas (42 percent for white teenagers; 65 percent for black teenagers).
- Sixteen percent of first marriages among ever-married women aged 15-44 in 1982 had been dissolved within five years, mostly by divorce or separation.
- The percentage of married women aged 20-24 who were infertile (unable to conceive after a year of intercourse without contraception) rose from 4 to 11 percent between 1965 and 1982.
- Fifty-nine percent of black women with children in 1982 had their first birth before marriage, compared to 11 percent of white mothers.
- Twenty-four percent of American babies born in the early 1970s were breastfed for at least some time. By the early 1980s, the proportion had more than doubled to 53 percent (57 percent among whites, 25 percent among blacks, 73 percent among infants born to college-educated women).

This latest NSFG is the first comprehensive U.S. fertility survey since the NSFG of 1976, which followed the NSFG of 1973 and four similar surveys conducted earlier by private researchers, beginning in 1955. The NSFG's Cycle III sample of women interviewed was for the first time representative of all women in the childbearing ages of 15-44 living in the U.S. (excluding only Alaska, Hawaii, and women in institutions), regardless of whether or not they had been married or had children—who numbered 54 million in 1982. Teenagers aged 15-19 and black women were sampled at higher rates than other women so reliable national estimates for these groups could be made. □

Additional copies of the 42-page *Population Bulletin*, "Understanding U.S. Fertility: Findings from the National Survey of Family Growth, Cycle III" (Vol. 39, No. 5) can be ordered from the Population Reference Bureau for $4.00 each; 2-10 copies, $3.00 each; 11-50 copies, $2.50 each; over 50, $2.00 each. Handling charges: Inside the U.S., add $1.00 to each order; outside the U.S., add 25 percent of cost of *Bulletins* ordered.

## Population Surfaces in Debate

World population concerns momentarily became an issue of the second Presidential debate when President Reagan was asked (in a somewhat curious question) if he felt the world is "in for an Armageddon, or a situation, a time of anarchy regarding the population explosion in the world."

Reagan's response was, in part, *"No, as a matter of fact, the population explosion, if you look at the actual figures, has been vastly exaggerated, over-exaggerated. As a matter of fact, there are some pretty scientific and solid figures about how much space there still is in the world and how many more people we can have."*

In 1974, as California governor, Reagan issued a proclamation that seemingly read the opposite. ("[We should] take this opportunity to reflect on the necessity of population stabilization to the welfare of all the people of the world.") But that proclamation seems anomalous with most other statements by the President, including the most recent (made on the 1980 campaign trail): "Now today there are studies, farm studies, based on the tillable land on earth and based on [farming it] at the level of American farming worldwide, [which say] that the earth can support a population of 28 billion people." □

## Mapping Canada's Cities

Population atlases showing the population dimension of 12 major Canadian cities have been published in a series by Statistics Canada. Each of the new Metropolitan Atlas Series covers a single city, with maps showing data on 33 statistical themes (e.g., population distribution, housing, income, employment, etc.) illustrated at the tract level, using data from the 1981 Census.

As a result, the reader can see the many ways in which a population is diversified spatially and the ways these diversities are interlinked. In short, Statistics Canada's Atlas series offers highly useful, in-depth city portraits for demogrpahers, geographers, and urban planners.

(The cities covered: St. John's, Halifax, Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa-Hull, Toronto, Hamilton, Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton, Calgary, and Vancouver.) □

To order issues from the *Metropolitan Atlas Series* (Catalogue nos. 99-919 to 99-930), write: Publications Sales, Statistics Canada, Ottawara, Canada KIA OT6. Canada $8.50 in Canada, $10.20 elsewhere.

# That Was PRB's Year That Was

Readers who read *PT* and other publications may wonder what PRB is really like. Located in Washington, D.C.'s booming West End, PRB lives in a four-story townhouse full of staff (about 22), computer terminals, and one of the largest population libraries in the U.S.* Well established, independent, and nonadvocacy in its orientation, PRB is in its 55th year of explaining the economic and social impact of population change to educators, policymakers, the media, and an informed public.

PRB chalked up 1984 as a year of exceptional challenges and achievements.

The year saw the election of PRB's new President, Thomas W. Merrick, who took office Sept. 1, with former President Robert P. Worrall stepping down to become President Emeritus and a PRB senior consultant. Merrick, a demographer who previously headed Georgetown University's Center for Population Research, pledged that the Bureau would sharpen its capacity to respond to the ever-growing and more complex population information needs of the 1980s and 1990s.

Leon F. Bouvier was elected PRB Vice President by the Board of Trustees. Also a demographer, Bouvier was serving as senior consultant and has a long association with PRB, as may be attested by the fact that he was vice president of PRB once before, in 1976. Bouvier also serves on the Board of Directors of the Population Association of America.

One of PRB's major efforts in 1984 was to increase membership and publication sales. As President Merrick put it, "We try to keep dues low so that we can reach as many people as possible." (One generous member responded by enrolling 47 of his colleagues for memberships.)

Because of a series of large-scale

orders, a record 180,000 copies of the 1984 *World Population Data Sheet* were sold during the year. The *Population Bulletins* for the year included in-depth coverage of demography in business, a vision of the future of the world's population growth and a first overview of the results of the important new National Survey of Family Growth. A new group of PRB publications—the *Population Trends and Public Policy* series—drew policymaker attention to population-related issues of public policy. And PRB's venerable *Intercom* was succeeded by *Population Today*, which you're holding in your hand.

PRB's multitalented staff was on the move throughout 1984. President Merrick participated in the Western Hemisphere Migration Program held in Bogota, Colombia. Vice President Bouvier traveled under AID contract to the Ivory Coast and Sierra Leone to conduct "RAPID" presentations (Resources for Awareness of the Population Impacts in Development) for officials of those countries. President Emeritus Worrall traveled to India and China to facilitate improved relationships with similar organizations in those countries. Staff also traveled to Sudan and Somalia (with The Futures Group), to Mexico (to provide press coverage of the International Population Conference) and to the annual meeting of the Population Association of America (as reporters and participants). Meanwhile, the population education staff logged 10,000 miles conducting population education workshops in order to help teachers and students all over the U.S. be more population- and demography-knowledgeable.

Bouvier

PRB also continued its exploration of the field of business demography through its Demographic Information Service Center (DISC). Using local area population estimates and projections from the Donnelley Marketing Information Services' computerized data base, PRB experts are able to study the demographic feasibility for every endeavor imaginable, from regional commuting patterns to cookie vending franchises.

With the assistance of a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, PRB's visiting scholar for 1984-85 year is Alice Day, from the Australian National University. She will spend her year at PRB researching the implications of increased life span for social support of the aged.

Ultimately, the most important "staff" of PRB remains its members. It is they, with their commitment to the importance of population issues, who provide the mandate for PRB's work and, with their generosity and support, make it possible. During the coming year, PRB plans to expand and refine its services to members and the public at large. Watch this space. □

*Open to the public, PRB's Information Resource Center answered more than 5,000 inquiries from the public in 1984.